

## **APPENDIX 37—ADOBE TOWN DISPERSED RECREATION USE AREA**

---

### **WESTERN EXTENSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA**

#### **Adobe Town Dispersed Recreation Use Area**

Within the Western Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA) lies an area proposed as the Adobe Town Dispersed Recreation Management Area. The Adobe Town Dispersed Recreation Management Area contains approximately 247,000 acres. The Dispersed Recreation Management Area consists of the Rawlins Field Office (RFO) portion of the Adobe Town Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and adjacent lands that contain opportunities for dispersed recreation use.

A portion of the Dispersed Recreation Use Area is within the Adobe Town WSA (approximately 34,200 acres). Identification as a Dispersed Recreation Management Area is consistent with management under the Interim Management Policy (IMP) and in no way constrains Congress in designating the area as Wilderness or releasing it for other uses. Uses that are incompatible with the IMP would not be allowed in the WSA.

A portion of the Dispersed Recreation Management Area has been leased for oil and gas development (approximately 176,000 acres). Some of these lands contain roads, wells, pipelines, and compressor stations used for energy production as well as range improvements in support of livestock grazing. Identification as a Dispersed Recreation Management Area in no way alters these leases, improvements, permits, or other valid existing rights. Identification of the area as a Dispersed Recreation Management Area would not limit mineral leasing or development nor would it sunset existing leases.

Actions within the Dispersed Recreation Management Area would conform to the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) descriptions, as is reasonable given that the majority of the area has been leased. Leased areas that are developed would experience, in some cases, severe deviation from the desired ROS over an extended period of time. After cessation of oil and gas development, these areas should be reclaimed to the setting opportunity described in Table A37-1. This area would be a priority for reclamation.

**Table A37-1. Adobe Town Dispersed Recreation Management Area ROS and Associated Management Goals**

Opportunity Class	Activity Opportunity	Setting Opportunity	Experience Opportunity
<b>Primitive</b> (Adobe Town WSA component of Dispersed Recreation Use Area) (Map 2-58)	Backpacking, hiking, equestrian use, enjoying scenery or natural features, nature study, photography, and hunting (big game, small game, predators, game birds)	Area is characterized by essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Concentration of users is very low, and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free from evidence of human-induced restrictions and controls. Only facilities essential for resource protection are used. No facilities for comfort or convenience of the user are provided. Spacing of groups is informal and dispersed to minimize contacts between groups. Motorized use within the area is not permitted.	Opportunity for isolation from the sights and sounds of man, to feel a part of the natural environment, to have a high degree of challenge and risk, and to use outdoor skills
<b>Adobe Town Middle Country</b> (Map 2-58)	Same as above, plus the following: camping, mountain bike and off-highway vehicle (OHV) use on designated routes (4-wheel drive, OHV, motorcycle)	Area is characterized by a predominately unmodified natural environment of moderate to large size. Concentration of visitors is low, but there is often evidence of other area users. Onsite controls and restrictions may be present but are subtle. Facilities are provided for the protection of resource values and the safety of users only. Spacing of groups may be formalized to disperse use and limit contacts between groups. Motorized use is permitted.	Some opportunity for isolation from the sights and sounds of man, but not as important as for primitive opportunities. Opportunity to have high degree of interaction with the natural environment, to have moderate challenge and risk, and to use outdoor skills. Explicit opportunities to use motorized and mechanized equipment while in the area
<b>Adobe Town Front Country</b> (Map 2-58)	Same as above, plus picnicking, 4-wheel drive touring, interpretive use, and car and tent camping. Front Country uses limited to primary access routes within the area	Area is characterized by a generally natural environment with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of man. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident but harmonize with the natural environment. Concentration of users is low to moderate with facilities sometimes provided for group activity.	About equal opportunities for affiliation with other public land users and for isolation from sights and sounds of man. Opportunity to have a high degree of interaction with the natural environment. Challenge and risk opportunities are not very important except in specific challenging activities. Practice of outdoor skills may be important. Opportunities for both motorized and nonmotorized recreation are present

The Adobe Town Dispersed Recreation Management Area would be managed for primitive, middle, and front country recreation desired future use (Map 2-59) in addition to other multiple uses. The area would

be managed for dispersed recreation uses that do not require recreational developments or facilities. Future emphasis would be placed on maintaining an undeveloped recreation setting.

- **Recreation Management:** The area would see no recreation development. Roads and vehicle routes would be designated according to the transportation plan. These designations would be consistent with the desired ROS class and the IMP. Roads and vehicle routes would be signed in accordance with the transportation plan.
- **Recreation Marketing:** Minimal promotion of the area would occur. Information would be limited to allowable uses in the area, resources within the area, and basic safety information.
- **Recreation Monitoring:** Traffic counters would be installed at major access points into the area. Monitoring of the WSA component of the area would occur according to the IMP. Periodic monitoring through field observations would occur to determine types and frequency of use.
- **Recreation Administration:** Special Recreation Permits (SRP) would be issued for use of the area if the proposed use is consistent with the ROS class. Use restrictions of the area are dictated by the IMP, the transportation plan, and standard use requirements as identified in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).
- **Dispersed Recreation:** Opportunities would be pursued to provide for dispersed recreation by keeping the number of roads, other construction, or other surface disturbing activities (such as well pads and pipelines) to a minimum while recognizing the potential for oil and gas development in the area. Transportation planning would include consideration of proper road location, construction, reconstruction, design, and reclamation. New road construction would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for conformance with area and transportation plan objectives. Reclamation and restoration of the area would be accomplished and reclamation plans for disturbed areas would be prepared to restore lost habitat and vegetation cover to the setting opportunity described in the above table.
- **Area Management:** The area would be managed consistent with designated visual resource management (VRM) classifications to protect, maintain, and enhance the visual resource values. All surface disturbing actions, regardless of the VRM class, would be mitigated to reduce visual impacts. This would be achieved by designing and locating the disturbances to minimize contrast with the surrounding landscape.

